

BRIEF RESUME OF JAMES WATKISS (WESTBUL)

I always loved the look of a Bully when I was a kid, and a friend of my mum gave me one of his Bull Terrier Cross pups, when I was 10 years old. She was a great companion. I had a red dog and a white bitch when I was in my early 20s but they were pretty poor quality.

Shirley and I bought a daughter of Gilavon Gold Award in 1973 and were among the founder members who attended the meeting on the banks of the Swan River which resulted in the formation of the BTCWA. I held many positions in the club including Secretary, for many years and resigned as President a few years ago, after running 3 very Successful Trophy Shows.

We then bought Dabews Ambassador (by Coari of Geham) He got the CC at his first show and he went to his title unbeaten. He was a coarse dog but a superb companion.

The usual scenario when you get the Bull Terrier Bug followed;

- A Trip to UK for the 1976 trophies-visit all the breeders-time with Raymond and Eva-learnt that our OZ Champ was not of breeding quality and bought 3 UK dogs and 3 UK bitches. They were mature animals as even then we knew that puppies were a gamble. With those UK dogs and the UK bloodlines already in Australia, produced many winners at all levels. We gave up all breeds showing and concentrated on specialties.
 - B Showed all over Australia and enjoyed super success in every state.
 - C Helped a lot of young enthusiasts get some good bloodlines.
 - D Used every decent stud dog in Australia instead of just our own. (We still do)
 - E Had kennels in three Shires, including boarding Kennels to feed the mob.
 - F I got my judging licence in 1983 and have judged Bull Terrier Club Specialty Shows all over Australia, New Zealand, UK, South Africa, USA, France, Holland, Ireland and Hungary.
I was honoured to be the First Australian Specialist to be appointed to the UK BTC Judges A list.
I am also a Terrier and Hound ANKC Ch Show judge.
 - G Led by Michael Plane, a group of us helped finance the First Trophy show weekend in Canberra.
 - H I was involved in the instigation of the National ROM system and the ROM Judges criteria.
 - I I was involved in the formation of the NBTCA and served as the WA delegate for many years. Shirley and I also served as Secretary and President of the NBTCA
 - I I was voted in as the Australasian delegate to the World Council of Bull Terriers Formed in 1997 during the Silverwood weekend.
 - J Shirley and I have written many articles on breed management in areas covering Stud dogs, whelping, rearing etc. and these have been featured in BT publications internationally.
 - K I had the honour of writing an explanatory extension of the Breed Standard for the NBTCA second Bull Terrier Book, to assist new owners with Conformation and Type attributes
 - L We have bred 19 ROM bull terriers.
 - M I love making trophies and statues etc. and donated many to the clubs over the years.
 - N We collected one of the greatest collections of BT gear known to man and have since moved on more than 400 books and many artifacts.
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